



THE AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN

FINAL SETTLEMENT OF ITS TERMS.
THE AGREEMENT CONFIRMED AT MADRID—CHRISTMAS DAY FIXED AS THE TIME FOR SURRENDERING THE VIRGINIUS.

We are informed by a special dispatch from Washington that the protocol signed by Secretary Fish and Señor Polo has received the formal confirmation of the Spanish Cabinet. It seems, however, to have been first made more definite by providing that the Virginus must be delivered to our Government on Christmas Day. Orders to this effect have been sent to Havana, and, notwithstanding the excitement which was created a few days ago (to which reference is made in our special correspondence given below), the prospect of a peaceful surrender is regarded as favorable. Secretary Robeson was before the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives yesterday, and explained the condition of the navy in detail, giving the reasons on which he based his request for a special appropriation.

AFFAIRS AT MADRID.

FINAL SETTLEMENT OF THE TERMS OF AGREEMENT—CHRISTMAS DAY APPOINTED FOR THE SURRENDER OF THE VIRGINUS—ORDERS SENT TO HAVANA.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The official relations between the United States and Spain are more favorable for peace to-day than they have been at any time since the capture of the Virginus. News was received yesterday that the Spanish Cabinet had formally agreed to the demands of the United States as set forth in the protocol signed by Secretary Fish and Admiral Polo on Nov. 29, and that the agreement had received the official signatures. This agreement does not differ in any essential particular in its terms from the protocol already printed, except that the time, place, and manner of delivering the Virginus and prisoners to the United States, and the salute to the flag, which had not been settled at the time the protocol was signed, have now been fixed. The Virginus will be delivered to our navy on Christmas Day. The news of the final settlement of the terms of agreement between the two Governments has been forwarded to the Spanish authorities at Havana and the necessary orders given. High officials say, this evening, that there is now very little apprehension felt by our Government either in regard to the ability of Spain to enforce her decrees in Cuba or of Castelar's Government to sustain itself at home while it carries out the terms of agreement.

OPINIONS AT WASHINGTON.

GEN. SICKLES'S RESIGNATION—EVERYTHING IN A FAIR WAY OF ACCOMMODATION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The friends of Gen. Sickles say that he will, on his return to Washington, formally tender his resignation as Minister to Madrid. The Cabinet to-day was not in session more than an hour. All the members were present, excepting the Secretary of War. No new features were presented concerning our relations with Spain. Tonight it is said on high authority that everything is believed to be in a fair way of accommodation.

THE LATE EXCITEMENT AT HAVANA.

WHEN IT WAS AT FEVER HEAT—MEETING OF THE CASINOS—PLEDGES TO MAINTAIN SPANISH HONOR—THE PREEMPTORY ORDER FOR THE RELEASE OF THE VIRGINIUS.

HAVANA, Dec. 4.—Popular opinion excited by the Spanish advice from the United States at one time reached fever heat, but it has now begun to subside. With one party there is a determination to make the best of the demands of the United States, but with the ultra Spanish party there is a dogged resolution never to surrender the Virginus. The last party is probably twice as large as those who are willing to surrender the vessel, and many times more influential in the councils of the oligarchy which rules the island. When the news of the demands of the United States was first received, the rage and excitement of the Spanish party was indescribable. The cafés and the lobbies of the theaters were crowded with the better class of the Havanaese, and the most intense excitement was exhibited by all. There was a unanimous voice among complying with any such demands, and a desire was expressed for war, in order that the Americans might be punished for their temerity. Groups were found in the Café Lenville, and harangues made by the more eloquent of those present. Some unfortunate wretch who had given utterance to sentiments at variance with those of the majority was assailed by a mob of "gentlemen," violently belabored with canes, and dismissed amid a torrent of invectives.

In the Casino, however, the popular rage reached its height, and exorcution was the feature of the debate. The great light of the club, Zulueta, the Tread of Cuba, called a meeting of its members to consider the situation. Although the Casino numbers among its members many foreigners, including a few Americans, the meeting was almost exclusively attended by Spaniards, and Cubans professing to sympathize with Spain. The American members were advised by personal friends not to venture near the meeting, as the result might be uncomfortable if not fatal. The excitement at this meeting was intense, and the general sentiment expressed was adverse to any compliance with the demands of the Americans. A formal communication to the interior Casino was adopted and immediately transmitted. This communication was of a general character, declaring that telegrams of great importance had been received from Madrid, which obliged all true Spaniards to renew their allegiance to the Government in order to conserve and protect the honor of their country in the Antilles, even at the sacrifice of their lives. It concluded by urging the interior Casino to have confidence in the Havana center, which latter would inform them as soon as anything decisive was contemplated.

This dispatch, signed by Zulueta, was answered by every Casino on the island. That of Cienfuegos stated that a great meeting of its members had been held, at which a protest against the demands had been adopted, and implying that war was preferable to acquiescence, and the property and lives of the members were offered for the honor of the mother country. The Volunteers also held meetings at which it was resolved to make the same sacrifices. Dispatches received from Cardenas, Remedios, Santa Clara, Colon, Trinidad, Sagua, Pinar del Rio, Bamba, Placetas, Guanajay, Sancti Spiritus, Matanzas, and other places, all manifested the same spirit. On the street the sentiment "Morir por la Patria" was almost universal.

In official circles much excitement prevailed, and it was asserted that the Captain-General, all his staff, the Political Governor-General of Marine, and other leading officials would resign. Indeed, it was reported that their resignations had already been forwarded, the Captain-General and the other officers of the Government declining to assume the odium of the surrender of the Virginus, and asserting that they would not be responsible for the action of the populace if such a surrender was made. On the streets and among the Volunteers and lower order of Spaniards there were threats of violence, and at one point the mob had actually concluded to destroy the Virginus, but were dissuaded therefrom by the action of their officers. The press of Havana largely helped to aid the feverish excitement, and finally the Captain-General was obliged to issue an order recommending confidence in the administration of the Island and moderation in the actions and expressions of the populace. The papers then, at official instigation, changed their tone, and although they still declared their

desire to die for their country they also advocated obedience to the authorities. There is no question, however, but that all the Spaniards on the island are averse to relinquishing the Virginus, and would not do it if they were not absolutely compelled. By those who prefer war to the surrender of the vessel there are threats of burning or scuttling it. So serious have these threats been regarded that the guard on the Virginus, which continues to lay at the Navy-Yard, has been doubled and other extra precautions taken. The officers of the Navy keenly feel their humiliation in the return of the Virginus, and it has been proclaimed in the newspapers that, if the vessel is given up, all the officers of the Tornado will resign all grades, honors, and decorations, and retire from the service, and that many of the officers in other war vessels will do the same. Such has been the tone since the announcement of the demands of the United States.

Matters are now growing quieter, and while the dogged intention of the Spaniards still exists, and there may be some trouble at the time of the surrender, the Government will take such precautions as it can to lessen the danger. Much depends upon the Casino, and of their allies, the Volunteers. If these should continue to prove obstinate, the Virginus may never be delivered up, but probably be destroyed at her moorings. Efforts are making to conciliate them, and from present appearances these efforts will be successful. Papers advocating calmness are also in circulation for signatures. Official intelligence is unobtainable here, the Government authorities shielding themselves behind a barrier of formal exclusiveness. They do not like American journalists, and will impart as little information as possible. No news has yet been received outside of high Government circles of the reference which President Grant's message makes to Cuba. Much conjecture is expressed and many rumors are in circulation regarding it, but nothing definite is known.

The fund for a testimonial to the officers of the Tornado has reached \$2,300, and is receiving only very slight additions. The Minister of Ultramar is endeavoring to place the finances of the island on a sound basis, but with an immense debt, about to be increased by the addition of another \$10,000,000 in paper money, he is likely to have a troublesome time.

The very latest intelligence which can be obtained before the closing of the mail is to the effect that the Madrid Government has ordered the Virginus to be delivered up immediately; if the instructions of the Home Government are not complied with, the offenders in Cuba are to be considered in the same light as the insurgents of Cartagena in Spain, and are to be treated accordingly. At the present time there is every appearance of trouble. The Spaniards are obstinate, and there is a strong determination expressed not to give up the Virginus. If this is the case, it practically places Spanish Cuba in open rebellion against the Castelar Government. The Captain-General, chief of volunteers, and other prominent officials held a conference to-day on the above orders, but what decision they arrived at is unknown.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF HAVANA.

THE ENTRANCE TO THE CITY—APPEARANCE OF MORRO CASTLE—PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF GEN. BURRIEL—MERCURIAL CHARACTER OF THE INHABITANTS.

HAVANA, Dec. 2.—As I was standing by the gateway of the Morro Castle, just then in the last throes of departure from the wharf, my attention was drawn to two Cubans taking leave of each other with all the effusive embracing and kissing of the Latin race. Then I heard one of them say to the other, with a strong Spanish *rotundo*, "Good-by; Fraternity and Petroleum!" That was the first warlike speech of the many I heard upon the good ship. There was, however, a conciliatory lip-smile ferocity in the talk, after we had got well at sea. The malevolence of both elements, human and watery, were soon smoothed away in our pleasant lapse southward. Cubans, Spaniards, and Americans took off their iron-plating, so to speak, with their overcoats, and finally in Summer clothes and thin shoes, stood on a complete peace-footing. The third or fourth morning out we passed the Powhatan towing the monitor Manhattan. That was the only other warlike sign we met until we came in sight of the Morro Castle. We made the light-house about 1 o'clock in the morning, and, of course, had to wait outside until sunrise. Thus we had the much-wanted beauty of the entrance to Havana at its best. First, the Morro, reminding one of the impossible architecture of the pictures of old fashioned ladies' keepsakes and albums, bristling with guns, and towering perhaps a little out of usefulness in the warfare of these times of low fortifications. Then came the high walls of the Cabanas, and then the whole city and the shipping outlined against the hills, crimson with sunrise, as with the memory of the blood of Lopez and of the countless executions of which they have been the scene.

We cast anchor opposite the very ship which has made the anarchy of this island more anarchical. There before us, peacefully drying her sails, was the Tornado, which captured the Virginus, and not far from her lay the immense frigate Gerona, which captured the Tornado from the Chilians. The Virginus, being up at the arsenal navy-yard, was not in sight. The captors are turning her into a gunboat. The Tornado is a small iron steamer, and has certain fine points about her that indicate fleetness. We had plenty of time to contemplate her before we were allowed to land. The first Assistant Chief of Police had been up late talking politics the night before, and we had to wait a long time for him. Then the Health Officer had had his coffee, and we had to wait for him. Then the whole dozen or less custom-house officials had gone to breakfast, and we had to wait for them. There were innumerable other causes of delay, to which I can give no technical name. But we finally went ashore, and through the custom-house. In paying for permission to land, I was boldly defrauded out of \$2 50 in change. I reminded the official of it, who acknowledged the swindle, but did not offer to make restitution. This seemed to me to rise way beyond mere crime into the high atmosphere of subtle humor, and I smiled. I looked at him in amazement, but he smiled on. In short, he smiled and smiled, and was a villain still, and I have seen the last of my \$2 50.

At my hotel I have had the honor of several interviews with Gen. Burriel—interviews, that is, at one remove, having dined and breakfasted at a table quite near to him. He is a man of medium size, and not apparently over 35 years old. His face is rather that of a usually met in a staff officer than that of a great warrior. He is not a homely man, and in no way a striking one to look at. One might attribute firmness to him, and perhaps promptness of action; but I really cannot see any marked indication of cruelty in his face. Neither does it express anything cheerful or companionable. I have not yet seen him laugh. He talks very little. Yesterday morning he had his orders and certain colonels with him to breakfast, and Gen. Burriel, I noticed, was not the only one of them who ate with a knife. It would be hard to give any idea of the state in which I found this picturesque old city when I arrived yesterday. It has been excited almost to the pitch of bloodshed, and calmed down again twice since my arrival. Last night was one of terrible talk and bluster. This morning opened calm; but now as I write it has become worse than ever. The Spanish party of the Casino de Espana have reared up for themselves a power which they cannot control. They have an armed mob in the Volunteers, who now refuse to let the Virginus be given up. All sorts of wild rumors are flying. The last is that the Captain-General and most of the Spanish

rulers here have resigned. I can see two American vessels coming in as I write to swell the number of our countrymen here. Of these there are already a goodly number. The only personal danger apprehended by Americans—and indeed that is shared by all speaking the English language, the British as well as Americans—is from some mob movement of these ignorant Volunteers, who think and say they are equal to the whole world, and are anxious to cope with it. There are two opinions among thinking people. One is that the Volunteers will burn or sink the Virginus before she leaves the harbor; and the other is that they will expend their valor in talk. By the time this reaches you you will be more able than perhaps any one here just now to tell which of these two opinions is nearer the truth.

THE NAVAL APPROPRIATION.

SENATOR ROBERTSON BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE—HIS VIEWS RESPECTING THE NECESSITY FOR COMPLETING THE NAVAL PREPARATIONS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Secretary of the Navy was before the House Appropriations Committee this morning, in support of his application for an additional appropriation of \$5,000,000 to continue the work of putting the navy on a war footing. He gave the Committee a detailed account of the present strength and disposition of our naval forces and of the steps taken by him to increase their efficiency since the capture of the Virginus. Going over the entire navy list, he described the condition, size, and armament of every vessel, and indicated the present station of all now in commission. He said that Key West, the depot of supplies of the North Atlantic Squadron, had been selected as the rendezvous for the armament designed to operate against Cuba in case of war. The vessels dispatched from the various navy-yards had been ordered to that station, and also a number of ships from the European and South Atlantic Squadrons. The Secretary reminded the Committee that he had never before been to Congress for a deficiency, and had always kept the expenses of his Department within the appropriations. He asked for \$4,000,000 to make good the amounts used from the funds of the different bureaus to meet the present emergency and to complete the repairs and equipment of vessels now on hand at the yards, and also recommended that an additional appropriation of \$1,000,000 should be made as a fund to be used at the discretion of the President, in case any pressing necessity should arise during the holiday recess of Congress. Gen. Garfield will prepare a bill distributing the \$4,000,000 among the bureaus of the Departments in accordance with the requirements of each. It is probable that the additional appropriation of \$1,000,000 will be made with a provision that any portion of it remaining unexpended on the 15th of January shall be covered into the Treasury. The Committee will take final action on the subject to-morrow.

KEY WEST.

THE NAVAL DEPOT—ACTIVE PREPARATIONS—A COLONY OF REFUGEES—THE FUTURE OF KEY WEST.

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 1.—An island four miles long and over one mile wide, looking out on one side upon the Atlantic Ocean, on another upon the Straits of Florida, and on another upon the Gulf of Mexico; a population of about 9,000 souls, or 3,000 more than the last census allows; a town of frame houses with broad piazzas, and shaded by cocoa and almond-trees; a capacious and beautiful harbor, in which the largest ships may ride in safety; a fort, barracks, and also a dozen wharves. Key West may thus be summarily described.

At present, attention is attracted to the place solely because of its being the rendezvous of the American Navy in prospect of war with Spain and the probable rendezvous and base of supplies for both army and navy in case of a movement against the Island of Cuba. During the Rebellion it was for a long time notable as the only Southern harbor in possession of the Union forces, and throughout the war it was invaluable to our Government as a point of departure and recuperation. The vessels here stationed were equally available for the reconnaissance in force or other demonstration against any Gulf or South Atlantic port or cruise after blockade runners on our coast or hovering about their haunts in the West Indies. Here was an accessible harbor; a safe depository of supplies, and a place where prizes were brought in without delay and promptly adjudicated.

The superior advantages of the position in a war with Spain are too obvious to require mention in detail. After what I have already said a glance at the map will be sufficient to make them apparent, were not the mails uncertain and infrequent and the telegraph facilities restricted to a single wire, the position would be indeed invaluable. The first of these difficulties might be overcome by a more judicious distribution of Florida's quota of the funds apportioned by the Post-Office Department; and the second will probably be obviated by the laying of another telegraphic cable between Key West and Punta Rassa, the termini of the existing wire between the Key and the main land.

It will surprise many who think they know something about the Florida reefs to learn that a plan to make Key West accessible by an all-rail route is under serious consideration, and that it has received the sanction of civil engineers and exalted the faith of some of the most sagacious business men of Florida. It is proposed to run a line of railway from Key West through Florida, crossing at right angles the railroad which extends from Cedar Keys on the Gulf to Fernandina on the ocean, thus making connection with Savannah and the great network of railways going north, south, east, and west. To carry out the project it will be necessary to locate the road over more than 100 miles of islands, or keys, as they are here called, and the engineers report that this can be done without an extravagant outlay. According to their survey, only one navigable strait would be crossed, and hence only one drawbridge would be necessary, while the grading at all points would be slight and inexpensive. Such a railroad would be a curiosity, but no greater marvel than the wonderful engineering of the Central Pacific and Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads. The profit would be expected in the immensely increased travel and trade between Cuba, Jamaica, Santo Domingo, and the Bahamas and the continental cities. If such a road were built and trains running on it, it would be invaluable to the Government in case of war.

There are now three vessels of war and a revenue cutter in the Key West harbor, and several are on their way here from Northern navy-yards. The Worcester, carrying the flag of Admiral Scott, as flagship of the North Atlantic Squadron, arrived a week ago. The Worcester is a fine frigate of 15 guns, and is splendidly officered and in good fighting condition. The Admiral and the ship's commander, Capt. W.D. Whiting, are both esteemed and beloved by their subordinates, and officers and men are ready and anxious for the command to go across the water.

The iron-clad Saugus and the wooden sailing vessel Pawnee have been here for months. Both are well officered. Commander A.E.K. Benham commanding the Saugus, and Lieutenant John K. Whinn the Pawnee. The Saugus is ready for action and will be found effective. The Pawnee will hardly be of use except as a receiving or hospital ship. During the last week about 100 landmen have been received on the Pawnee from New-Orleans and other points, and are now in training for service on ships to which they may be hereafter assigned. A hundred more recruits are on the way. The Powhatan, Colorado, Jonata, Kansas, Florida, Mahopac, and Madhattan (the two last named being iron-clads) will probably arrive before the ten days elapse, and the

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WASHINGTON.

SENATORIAL CAUCUSES.

MR. CARPENTER NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT PRO TEM. OF THE SENATE BY THE REPUBLICANS, AND MR. THURMAN BY THE DEMOCRATS—DISCUSSION OF THE FINANCIAL AND BANKRUPTCY QUESTIONS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Republican Senators were in caucus an hour and a half this afternoon, the Senate adjourning about 1 o'clock. The principal business was the selection of a candidate for the Presidency pro tem. of the Senate. Ordinarily, this is a subject that would not come before the caucus at all at this time. The nomination and election of Mr. Carpenter during the extra session would have entitled him to reelection every time during the entire Congress that the Vice-President's chair was found to be vacant on the meeting of the Senate. Senator Carpenter himself was not present in the caucus, but remained in the Senate Chamber writing letters during the entire session. It is reported that Mr. Carpenter was renominated with very little, if any, opposition, and will therefore be elected to-morrow or next day, when Vice-President Wilson will be absent. The nomination of Attorney-General Williams to be Chief-Justice was not considered in the caucus at all. A large part of the time of the caucus was occupied in the discussion of some of the leading financial measures that are likely to come before the Senate this session. A very general sentiment was found in favor of some modification of the Bankruptcy act, and it is reported that an agreement was reached to repeal that part of the law which puts it into the power of a creditor to throw a debtor into involuntary bankruptcy. The Democrats, who are not in the habit of making nominations for Senatorial officers, held a special caucus to-day, and nominate? Mr. Thurman for the Presidency pro tem.

The Democratic Senators held a caucus this afternoon and passed the following resolutions:

First: That it is the sense of this caucus that the Democratic members of the Senate should vote for a candidate for the President of the Senate pro tempore who represents the political principles of their party.

Second: That the Hon. Allen G. Thurman of Ohio be the nominee of the Democratic members of the Senate for the office of President of the Senate, pro tempore.

Third: That the action of this caucus be made known to the Senate by the Hon. J. W. Stevenson of Kentucky, and that he nominate Senator Thurman for the office in question.

This action was taken by the Democratic caucus without any knowledge of who would be the nominee of the Republican caucus, and without reference to any individual.

THE DEBATE ON THE SALARY BILL.

MR. LAWRENCE'S DEFENSE OF THE BACK-PAY LAW—MR. LAMSON REPLIES IN A SATIRICAL SPEECH—ONE OF THE MOST TERRIFIC ASSAULTS EVER MADE ON THE FLOOR OF CONGRESS—MR. LAWRENCE COMPLETELY HUMILIATED—GREAT CONFUSION ON THE FLOOR AND IN THE GALLERIES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—One of the most terrific assaults ever made on the floor of Congress by a fellow-member, was that of Representative Lamson, a Democrat from Ohio, on his colleague, Mr. Lawrence of the VIIIth District, to-day. The bill to provide for the redemption of the loan of 1858 had, in the morning, been reported from the Ways and Means Committee, and its members monopolized all the time in its discussion. Mr. Dawes explained the bill briefly, and Mr. Kelley offered his amendment, the subsequent discussion showing that he was the only member of the Committee who was in favor of paying the loan in coin. His argument was a strong one from his point of view, but he had few followers. He showed the amount of gold already in our hands, and detailed an interview with the Secretary of the Treasury to the effect that \$25,000,000 would be required on the last of this month, thus leaving nearly half the gold already in the vaults, after redeeming in coin the \$20,000,000 of bonds accruing next January. He was not in favor in any way of perpetuating or extending our gold interest-bearing indebtedness. Twenty millions was too insignificant an amount to postpone.

Messrs. Beck, Wood, Burdard, and others followed, and the discussion clearly showed that there was a great interest in financial questions. Mr. Garfield, to obtain the floor, introduced an amendment to restore the duties on tea and coffee, but this was ruled out as not germane, but Mr. Garfield was allowed to speak for a few minutes. He said our expenditures were already beyond our revenues, and if we were to take money out of the treasury we must provide for putting some more in. At this point, Mr. Dawes (sotto voce) said: "If anybody wants \$5 in coin, he can get it at the treasury"—a bit of satire on Secretary Richardson's silver resumption theories. Mr. Kelley's amendment was beaten, and the Ways and Means bill was passed without a division. The vote on the amendment was 23 to 139.

This business was disposed of very quietly, and then followed the consideration of the Salary Repeal bill, and it was in this discussion that Mr. Lawrence was so roughly handled by his colleague. The talk began quietly enough, showing only a final aversion to each other, on the part of Mr. Cox of New-York and Mr. Negley of Pennsylvania. Mr. Cox led off with a short speech against Mr. Negley, and the latter replied. The point between them was unworthy the discussion of either, and consisted in deciding whether Mr. Cox's back pay was returned before Mr. Brooks's (his predecessor's) death or not. Mr. Lawrence had prepared a speech in writing against the Salary bill, and he delivered it in characteristic style, stamping the floor, pounding the desk, and swinging his long arms recklessly over the heads of those in his vicinity. His voice was pitched on a war key, as he named as the three great crimes of the age, the Missouri Compromise, the firing on Fort Sumter, and the passage of the Salary bill. His intemperance of language and his offensive manner were not agreeable even to those who were on his side of the question, and he was interrupted with some ugly questions. He was asked if he was not a member of Congress in 1861, and he answered that he was, and subsequent questions revealed the fact that he drew about \$4,000 of back pay at that time. He stammered and hesitated in his answers, and was so used up that he declined to yield for other questions, amid much laughter. When he finished he asked to have the remainder of his speech printed, but to this Mr. Butler objected.

Mr. Wilson of Indiana, who voted for and took the back pay, made a very temperate speech sustaining the bill and the taking of the money, and cited the names of dozens of distinguished men who had taken back pay in previous Congresses. He referred to Mr. Lawrence rather severely, while the latter tried to parry, but his effort was a failure, and he became more involved. Finally, he was asked why he denounced the taking of the money now after having taken it when he was before in Congress. There was much laughter throughout the House, and Mr. Lawrence was so beset by one after another that he sprang to his feet, shook his head, turned pale, and shouted to the Speaker. He said he was opposed to this back pay, but was asked why he favored the other, when he said, "This back pay is of too big an amount," amid roars of laughter. Mr. Dawes then asked him to state the exact amount of back pay which he believed would be right, but he could make no answer. The discussion at this stage gave promise of much "bad blood," but a more good-natured crowd was never collected on the floor. One member, in the midst of the punishment, objected to further discussion against Mr. Lawrence, on constitutional grounds, because the Constitution prohibited the induction of cruel or

unusual punishment. Mr. Wilson ended his speech by a declaration in favor of restoring the old rate of pay.

After one or two other speeches, Mr. Lamson took the floor. He voted six times for the back pay, took it, kept it, and gloried in it. He was twice asked by his constituents to resign, and finally told them to "Go to—!" He to-day took a very free, blustering course, but his speech was not remarkable until toward its close, when he took up the case of Mr. Lawrence. He showed himself a master of satire when he described his colleague, and he said it was a source of infinite happiness for him to be able to announce that such an object of virtue and consistency would never be lost from observation. He said that many of the Greeks and Romans, distinguished in their day and since, had passed away and left no likeness, and imagination could only attempt to portray them; but this was not the case with his colleague. He here took from his desk a public document of perhaps six or eight hundred pages, which he said was the report of a sub-committee sent to New-York during the XXXIXth Congress to investigate the election frauds in that city. Mr. Lawrence was the Chairman of the Committee, and the report was of the ordinary character, such as is made by every investigating Committee.

Mr. Lamson, in humorous terms, opened the book and held it up to the House. It contained a fine steel portrait of Mr. Lawrence. A roar of laughter followed, and cheering, stamping, and clapping of hands from all parts of the House and from the galleries almost drowned the Speaker's voice and gavel. To add to the defeat of his opponent, Mr. Lamson was handed a copy of *The Globe* of the XXXIXth Congress, which contained a short speech by Mr. Lawrence, using the argument [which Senator Carpenter has since appropriated—namely, that a member of Congress is bound by the Constitution to receive whatever pay is provided by law. This was the complete overthrow of the now demoralized Congressman, and a scene of great confusion followed. It is said that to-morrow Gen. Butler, or some other of those who favored the Salary bill, will exhibit to the House a late agricultural report, containing a picture of a ram owned in Ohio and named Judge Lawrence. The discussion on the bill will probably last two or three days.

HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

THE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION, THE JUDICIARY, AND BANKING AND CURRENCY, IN SESSION—THE SCHEME FOR DISTRIBUTING THE PROCEEDS OF LAND SALES FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES TO BE REPORTED TO THE HOUSE—DIFFERENCE OF OPINION ON THE CURRENCY QUESTION AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE BANKING AND CURRENCY COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The House Committee on Education has begun work early. Its first meeting was held this morning, when it was determined to report George F. Hoar's bill to distribute the proceeds of the sales of public lands among the States for educational purposes. This scheme was formed in the last Congress, but there was not then time for a report. Its main features are, First: The setting apart of one-half of the money accruing from land sales to form a permanent educational fund; Second: The annual distribution of the other half and of the interest of the fund among the States and Territories which maintain a free common school system; Third: The distribution to be made on the basis of illiteracy for the first five years, and afterwards on that of population. Chairman Monroe will report the bill as soon as the Committee is called. Its fate in the House is doubtful.

The House Judiciary Committee had a short preliminary discussion this morning upon three of the most important subjects now before Congress—the disposition of the Geneva award, the repeal of the Bankruptcy law, and the Civil Rights bill. No definite action was taken upon either. From the opinions expressed it is probable that Mr. Butler's bill for the disposition of claims upon it in the United States Circuit Court, and shuts out the claims of underwriters, will be adopted. The Committee will probably favor the repeal of the involuntary clause of the Bankruptcy law, if they go no further. The Civil Rights bill is likely to be somewhat modified, to meet certain constitutional objections brought against it, and, as modified, will no doubt be reported and pushed through as a party measure. In its present shape the bill prohibits the States from making certain laws in legislation against colored people. It is held by members of the Committee that it is competent for Congress to prohibit the objectionable actions, but not to prescribe what laws the States shall or shall not make. If they make any which contravene the law of Congress, such laws will be null and void.

An interesting meeting of the House Committee on Banking and Currency was held to-day. The whole subject of the currency was freely canvassed in a conversational way by the members, and the opinions expressed showed such a wide divergence of views on first principles, that it is easy to predict that the Committee will not be able very soon to harmonize upon any measure involving an important change in the volume or character of the circulating medium, if they come to any important conclusion during this session. Speaker Blaine, in constituting the Committee, appears to have intended that it should represent all the various shades of financial opinion entertained in the House, and also the lack of definite conviction, which is the state of mind in which a considerable proportion of the body find themselves. The Committee, although holding as many different opinions on minor points as there are members, may be divided into three classes—first, the positive inflationists, who want to get the greenback bill grinding, and who believe that an abundance of paper money makes flush and prosperous times; second, the incidental inflationists, who want either free banking or an increase of the present bank circulation; and, third, the conservatives, or anti-inflationists, who think there is currency enough in the country, and oppose anything that tends to postpone resumption. The latter propose no war upon the banks, but instead of enlarging their privileges, they want to make them more secure by prohibiting them from paying interest on deposits, and enforcing the existing law which forbids the certifying of checks unless the money drawn upon is actually on deposit.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Maynard, appears to have no decided views on the subjects that are before it. He said this morning that the field was new to him, and that he had no preconceived theories to bring forward. The question came up of how often meetings could be held, when Mr. Hunter said that the country wanted more money immediately, and the Committee ought to meet every day until it matured a bill. The anti-inflationists thought once a week was often enough, and after considerable discussion they carried their point. The Committee is understood to stand as follows: Messrs. Hunter, Hubbell, Niles, and Durham are greenback inflationists; Messrs. Hawley, Phelps, Randall, and Mitchell are against inflation and are conservative on all currency questions; Messrs. Farwell and Merriam are for free banking and against inflation, except as it may result incidentally from free banking; Mr. Maynard is uncommitted and open to conviction.

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CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

SPEAKER BLAINE'S REASONS FOR REAPPOINTING THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CIVIL SERVICE.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1873. Speaker Blaine was probably to explain to-morrow his appointment of the Select Committee on the Civil Service, without any action of the House reviving it. It appears that there is a parliamentary rule or usage, that the reference of any matter to a Committee which has

been discharged or has expired by limitation revives the Committee with all its old functions. On Thursday, Mr. McCrary of Iowa introduced a bill under the call, and it was referred to the Civil Service Committee in the usual formal manner. Probably not ten members would have understood the effect of the reference if their attention had been called to it. Next day the Speaker announced his Committee list, and upon it appeared the Select Committee on the Civil Service, the subject of the rule, not being a Standing Committee, had expired with the end of the previous session. The usage or rule, if it be a rule, under which the Speaker reappointed the Committee, is certainly an objectionable one, for it puts it substantially into the power of one member and the Speaker, to revive some committee which nine-tenths of the House do not want. The Credit Mobilier Committee, for example, might in this way be empowered to begin again its inquisitorial work.

BUTLER'S SCHEME FOR SMOTHERING INVESTIGATIONS.

NOT LIKELY TO SUCCEED.
The Butler scheme for smothering proposed investigations is not likely to succeed, a majority of the Committee on Rules being opposed to it. The plan, first broached by Mr. Butler, the subject of the correspondence, and afterward put in the shape of a resolution by Mr. Poland, contemplated the adoption of new rules providing that all resolutions calling for information or proposing investigations should be referred to some standing committee for a report on the necessity and propriety of making the call or of ordering the investigation. As the standing committees are each composed of eight Republicans and three Democrats, it is clear that no investigation which promised to damage the party would be likely to be recommended.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1873. The resignation of Judge Mark W. Delahay of the United States District Court of Kansas is announced. Charges of official misconduct were made against him during the last session of Congress, but no action has been taken on them, and his resignation will render unnecessary any further investigation. The friends of Judge Crozier, it is reported, are urging his appointment to the vacancy.

It is said that Gov. Burbank has sent in his resignation as the Executive of Dakota, to the President.

[For Regular Report of Congressional Proceedings see Fifth Page.]

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE BAZAINE TRIAL.

JUDGMENT LIKELY TO BE DELIVERED TO-DAY—LETTERS FROM PRINCE FREDERICK CHARLES READ IN EVIDENCE.

VERSAILLES, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1873. The Bazaïne trial is drawing to a close. It is probable that judgment will be given to-morrow.

PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1873.

The proceedings in the court-martial to-day were of unusual interest, and the Tribunal was filled and surrounded by an immense crowd of people.

Mr. Laohaud, the counsel for the defense, read letters from Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia. The first states that Marshal Bazaïne never visited the Prince's headquarters during the siege, and that the Prince saw him for the first time after the capitulation.

The second letter read expressed the highest esteem for Bazaïne, and praised him for the energy with which he prolonged the resistance to the Prussian arms.

ELECTION IN ENGLAND.

A CONSERVATIVE RETURNED TO PARLIAMENT FROM EXILE.

LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1873.

An election to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons occasioned by the acceptance of the Lord Chief-Justiceship of the Court of Common Pleas by Sir John Duke Coleridge, was held in Exeter to-day. Sir Edward Watkinson was the Liberal candidate, and the Conservatives nominated Mr. Arthur Mills. There was